



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 3, 1999

Lynn Williams
U.S. Forest Service
Kamas Ranger District
P.O. Box 68
Kamas, Utah 84036

Re: Acceptance of Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, June Balaich's
The Golden Empress 1-2-3 Project, S/043/024, Summit County, Utah

Dear Mr. Williams:

On July 29, 1999, the Division received June Balaich's Notice of Intent concerning their proposed The Golden Empress 1-2-3 small mining project, located in N1/2 of Section 32, T1S, R7E, SLBM, Summit County, Utah. As you are the lead agency for this project, a copy of this notice is forwarded to you for your information. This location is the same location as that previously permitted by Steve Shaffer and June Balaich as operators of the Bearhole/Rainbow mine site - DOGM file number S/043/015. **The Division hereby closes file number S/043/015 and releases Steve Shaffer from any further reclamation responsibility at this site, as this notice takes over the site.**

We have evaluated this notice under the Small Mining section of our Rules. The information provided in the notice meets the requirements of Rule R647-3 of the 1988 Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Minerals Rules, and Title 40-8, et seq., of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975. By accepting this application, the Division expects the operator to conduct his mining activities in compliance with the Operation and Reclamation Practices of Rule R647-3-107, 108, and 109 as outlined on pages 3 and 4 of the notice. However, he has requested a variance from item 12 - because of the previously disturbed area done by previous operators. Mr. Balaich has agreed to regrade and reseed as conditions allow. **The Division grants this variance request.** A variance request is not required for the practices which refer to features which are nonexistent at the project site.

Beginning July 1, 1998, the Division began collecting annual permit fees for new and existing permits, as authorized by the Utah Legislature. The operator has paid the initial \$100.00 permit application fee for this project. He also paid the delinquent 1998 permit fee for this

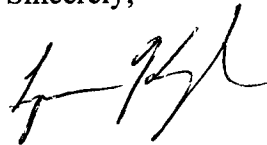
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project, under file number S/043/015. No additional information is required from the operator at this time. Please provide us with a final copy of your completeness letter to the operator.

Approval of mineral exploration or mining operations by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining does not constitute approval to commence operations upon lands under state mineral leases/school sections administered by the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, or federal lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or United States Forest Service (USFS). **Before conducting mining operations on these lands, the operator must provide written notification, meet bonding requirements, and obtain written approval from your agency.**

Thank you for your cooperation. If you receive further information or amendments for this operation, please notify us so we will be able to update our files. Please reference our designated file number S/043/024 when forwarding additional information on this project to us.

Sincerely,



Lynn Kunzler
Senior Reclamation Specialist

jb
Enclosure: Notice
cc: June Balaich, operator
Steve Shaffer, previous operator
Tracking File
File S/043/015
S43-24.noi